Remarks

The above preliminary amendment is made to remove amend claim 1, delete claims 2-19, and add claims 20-24.

Applicants hereby files this divisional application in order to elect Species 4 (Embodiment IV: Fig. 10 and 11) as set out in the restriction requirement in the parent application dated October 18, 2000.

Applicants respectfully request that the preliminary amendment described herein be entered into the record prior to calculation of the filing fee and prior to examination and consideration of the above-identified application.

If a telephone conference would be helpful in resolving any issues concerning this communication, please contact Applicants' primary attorney-of record, Michael D. Schumann (Reg. No. 30,422), at (612) 336-4638.

Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.

P.O. Box 2903

Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-0903

(612) 332-5300

By

Dated: February 10, 2004

Michael D. Schumann

Reg. No. 30,422

MDS/ame